



Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report

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Working Gas in Underground Storage Data Released May 11, 2006 at 10:30 A.M., For the Week Ending May 5, 2006

Region	Stocks (Bcf) for May 5, 2006	Stocks (Bcf) for April 28, 2006	Implied Net Change (Bcf)	Year Ago Stocks (Bcf)
East	1,008	959	49	681
West	267	255	12	236
Producing	714	690	24	585
Total Lower 48	1,989	1,904	85	1,501

Region	5-Year (2001-2005) Average Stocks (Bcf)	Difference from 5-Year Average (Percent)
East	608	65.8
West	207	29.0
Producing	461	54.9
Total Lower 48	1,275	56.0

Notes and Definitions

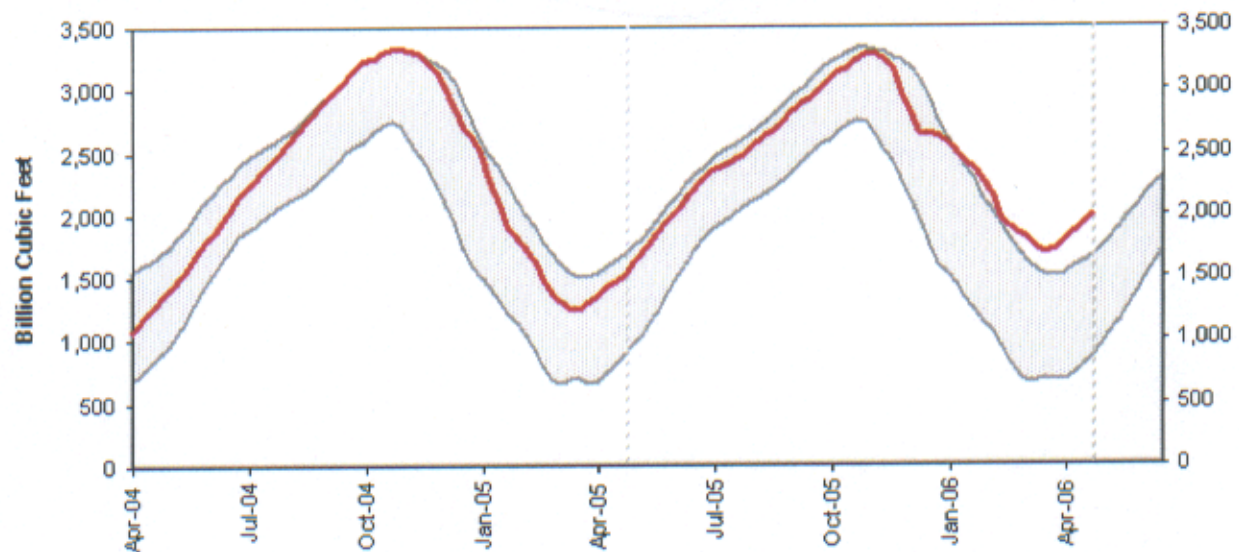
Note: This report tracks U.S. natural gas inventories held in underground storage facilities. The weekly stocks generally are the volumes of working gas as of the report date. Changes in reported stock levels reflect all events affecting working gas in storage, including injections, withdrawals, and reclassifications between base and working gas.

Note: The weekly storage estimates are based on a survey sample that does not include all companies that operate underground storage facilities. The sample was selected from the list of storage operators to achieve a target standard error of the estimate of working gas in storage which was no greater than 5 percent for each region. Based on a comparison of weekly estimates and monthly data from May 2002 through February 2006, estimated total working gas stocks have exhibited an average absolute error of 19 billion cubic feet, or 0.9 percent. For an expanded discussion of the relationship between the current and prior estimates, please see [Differences Between Monthly and Weekly Working Gas in Storage](#).

Storage Highlights:

Working gas in storage was 1,989 Bcf as of Friday, May 5, 2006, according to EIA estimates. This represents a net increase of 85 Bcf from the previous week. Stocks were 488 Bcf higher than last year at this time and 714 Bcf above the 5-year average of 1,275 Bcf. In the East Region, stocks were 400 Bcf above the 5-year average following net injections of 49 Bcf. Stocks in the Producing Region were 253 Bcf above the 5-year average of 461 Bcf after a net injection of 24 Bcf. Stocks in the West Region were 60 Bcf above the 5-year average after a net addition of 12 Bcf. At 1,989

Bcf, total working gas is above the 5-year historical range.

Working Gas in Underground Storage Compared with 5-Year Range

Notes: A weekly record for March 8, 2002, was linearly interpolated between the derived weekly estimates that end March 1 and the initial estimate from the EIA-912 on March 15. The shaded area indicates the range between the historical minimum and maximum values for the weekly series from 2000 through 2004.

Source: Form EIA-912, "Weekly Underground Natural Gas Storage Report." The dashed vertical lines indicate current and year-ago weekly periods.

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